

Application Serial No. 10/656,576
Reply to Office Action of February 7, 2007

PATENT
Docket: CU-3351

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious and therefore unpatentable because of U.S. patent number 4,292,405 to Ikeda in combination with U.S. patent number 6,839,045 to Ozawa et al.

Claims 3 and 4 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim but allowable if re-written to include all limitation of the base claim and any intervening claim.

The claim rejections were made final.

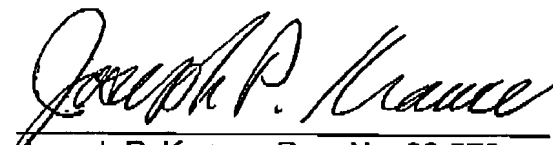
By this amendment, claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of claim 3 and claim 3 is cancelled. Claim 4 is amended to depend from claim 1 because claim 4 had been dependent upon claim 3.

The applicant asks for this amendment to be entered under 37 C.F.R. §1.116(b), which authorizes the entry of an amendment after a final rejection if an amendment cancels claims or complies with a requirement of form that was made in a previous office action. Since this amendment complies with the Examiner's requirement that claim 3 or 4 be amended to include the limitations of claim 1, and since this amendment cancels claim 3, this amendment qualifies for entry under the provisions of Rule 116(b).

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1, 2 and 4 will be in condition for allowance. This amendment should therefore be entered and the claims be allowed to issue.

Sincerely,

Dated: April 24, 2007


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